AIRPORT EXIT

Marseille Provence Airport (MRS)

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THE ANSWER

The A1 shuttle runs nonstop between Marseille Provence Airport and Gare Marseille-Saint-Charles in 30-50 minutes, every 10 minutes from 07:00 to 20:00 and from 03:30 to 01:50 - but its single ticket rose from EUR 10 to EUR 15 on 1 July 2026, making it one of France's priciest airport buses.

It is still the simplest door-to-station ride with luggage (direct motorway, 101 daily rotations), but the fare increase has made the train route via Vitrolles - a EUR 1.20 Lebus link to the TER station plus a ~EUR 7-8 regional train - the value play if your train hours (06:24-22:03) cover your flight.

Tight budget? Lebus L13 to Vitrolles-Aeroport station for EUR 1.20, then TER to Saint-Charles (aggregator fares put the train at ~EUR 7-8); a 10-ticket Lebus book costs EUR 9. Taxi? Metered only - MRS publishes no flat city fare; budget roughly EUR 55-90 per 2026 transfer-operator estimates.

EVERY WAY OUT — REAL PRICES

A1 shuttle to Saint-Charles *BEST FOR MOST* EUR 15 single / EUR 25 return

Direct motorway coach between the airport bus station (at MP1, between halls 1 and 3/4) and the Saint-Charles bus station in central Marseille, 30-50 min in traffic. From the airport: 04:05 to 01:50 (last bus May-October), from Saint-Charles: 03:30 to 01:15, every 10 minutes between 07:00 and 20:00, every 20 minutes otherwise, 7 days a year. Fares since 1 July 2026: single EUR 15, single + RTM metro/bus connection EUR 16, return EUR 25 (EUR 27 with RTM), 12-25s EUR 7, 6-11s EUR 5. Buy online at store.marseille.aeroport.fr, at the airport ticket offices (06:00-22:15) or from the driver.

Lebus L13 + TER train via Vitrolles EUR 1.20 + ~EUR 7-8 train

MRS has no station inside the terminal - the TER 'Vitrolles-Aeroport Marseille Provence' stop is a 5-minute Lebus L13 ride away from the airport bus station (dock 5). The shuttle link costs EUR 1.20 (Etang de Berre network unit ticket; a 10-ticket book is EUR 9) and runs 7/7. Then TER trains to Marseille Saint-Charles: up to 73 daily, 06:24-22:03 per the airport, about 14-19 minutes on the rails. SNCF machines are in the airport; buy online at sncf-connect.com or ter.sncf.com. The ~EUR 7-8 train-leg estimate comes from booking aggregators, not SNCF's own page - check before you count on it.

Taxi (official rank) metered, ~EUR 55-90

The rank is in front of Terminal 1 (walk across if you land at MP2). There is no prefectoral flat fare from MRS into Marseille - the airport's taxi page publishes only the Bouches-du-Rhone kilometre-rate table (charge EUR 3.80, EUR 1.10/km day, EUR 1.42/km night per 2026 transfer-operator listings), so A7 traffic sets the meter. The 25-40 minute run to the Vieux-Port budgeted at EUR 55-90 comes from private-transfer websites' estimates, not from the airport or prefecture.

VTC / ride-hailing apps app-priced

Licensed VTC and app cars (Uber, Bolt) serve MRS, picked up at the airport's designated areas rather than the kerb; like the taxis, prices move with A7 congestion and only the app quotes them.

THE TRAPS — WALK PAST THESE

The EUR 10 shuttle is now EUR 15

On 1 July 2026 La Metropole Aix-Marseille-Provence, mid budget crisis, raised the A1 shuttle from EUR 10 to EUR 15 the single and EUR 16 to EUR 25 the return - actu.fr and La Provence both flagged it as among the most expensive airport shuttles in France, dearer per km than Paris-CDG. Blogs still quoting EUR 10 are the trap; so is assuming the EUR 16 and EUR 25 tickets still exist. **Do this:** before boarding, decide between EUR 15 direct or the ~EUR 8 train combo via Vitrolles - and 12-25s still pay only EUR 7 on the bus

No station 'at' the airport - the train link needs two tickets

TER trains do not stop inside MRS. The Vitrolles-Aeroport station is reached only by the EUR 1.20 Lebus L13 from dock 5 of the bus station, and trains serve it roughly 06:24-22:03. Plan a late arrival or a 05:00 check-in on the 'train' and you will be standing on an empty platform. **Do this:** treat the train as a 06:24-22:03 option, buy the Lebus ticket on board, and keep your TER ticket for platform gates

The 01:50-04:05 public-transport gap

The shuttle's last airport departure is 01:50 (May-Oct; ~01:00 in winter) and the first is 04:05; trains start at 06:24. A red-eye landing has taxis only - metered, at rates the airport never published. On the reverse side, between 01:00 and 04:30 the Saint-Charles transit hub is entered via the stairs at Place Victor-Hugo, not the normal forecourt. **Do this:** if you land after 01:00 or take the 03:30 first bus, budget for a metered cab or find the Place Victor-Hugo stairs

30 minutes or 50 - the timetable is not a promise

The airport's own schedule says the Saint-Charles run takes 'between 30 and 50 minutes in normal traffic' and the small print warns times exclude traffic jams - the A7/Nord corridor does exactly that in rush hour and on grands departs weekends. A 07:00-20:00 bus every 10 minutes can still make you miss a 10:15 TGV. **Do this:** add a 30-minute buffer to any train or cruise connection after a shuttle ride

KNOW BEFORE YOU WALK

- The EUR 16 single (or EUR 27 return) includes RTM metro and bus travel from Saint-Charles - if your hotel is not at the station, it is EUR 1 better than buying two tickets.
- Travelling as a family on the train combo: the Lebus 10-ticket book at EUR 9 covers everyone's shuttle hops at EUR 0.90 each - four people to the station and back uses 8 of the 10.
- The airport ticket office at the bus station is open 06:00-22:15 every day, and the online store (store.marseille.aeroport.fr) sells before you fly.
- Aix-en-Provence TGV and the Cote Durance line are reachable from the same airport bus station - check the A2 and 66-90 coach listings on the airport's bus pages if Provence is the real destination.
- MP2 (the newer hall) is a walk from the Terminal 1 taxi rank and the A1 stop at MP1 between halls 1 and 3/4 - follow 'Bus / Navettes' signs in arrivals rather than the kerb.

A1 shuttle 2026 fares (EUR 15 / EUR 16 with RTM / EUR 25 / EUR 27, youth EUR 7, child EUR 5) read from the Marseille tourism office's 2026 rate sheet, with the 1 July 2026 increase from EUR 10/EUR 16 reported by actu.fr and La Provence (August 2026); route, timings and frequency (03:30-01:50, every 10 min 07:00-20:00, 30-50 min, dock/office details) from marseille-airport.com's own shuttle pages and timetable (the 2025 timetable's EUR 10/EUR 16 prices are superseded by the July 2026 tariff). Lebus L13 EUR 1.20, EUR 9 ten-book, VAMP station 06:24-22:03 and up-to-73-trains figures from the airport's Trains page. The ~EUR 7-8 TER Vitrolles-Saint-Charles fare is an aggregator (Omio/Trainline) day-of-price, not an SNCF-published flat fare - treat it as an estimate. No flat MRS-Marseille taxi tariff exists; the ~EUR 55-90 range is from 2026 transfer-operator listings against the prefecture table published on the airport's taxi page.

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